

If you have not already registered for the Small Business Forum, please do so by **Wednesday, February 20**. If you have not yet attended a SBF, I encourage you to do so because the information and networking opportunity with government agencies and other small business organizations can be very valuable. And I think the topics could be of great interest for you and your members.

Hope you can make it!

Also, please note there is a slight correction that has been made to the directions to Arizona Central Credit Union.

Did you RSVP yet???
Arizona Small Business Forum
Wednesday, February 27, 2008

Please join us for our upcoming Arizona Small Business Forum. Meet representatives from the following agencies (and others) to learn about hot topics that affect your members and address your industry's specific issues or concerns:

- **US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)**
- **Arizona Attorney General Terry Goddard's office**
- **Small Business Administration (SBA)**
- **Internal Revenue Service (IRS)** *It's that time of year to hear the hot topics about taxes!*
- **Social Security Administration (SSA)**
- **Department of Labor, Employee Benefits Security Administration (DOL-EBSA)**
- **Arizona Department of Revenue (ADOR)**
- **Maricopa Workforce Connections (MWC)**

And hear from our newest partners:

- **Arizona Central Credit Union** has graciously offered to host this event. This will give you an opportunity to check out their new Small Business services and the benefits they provide to their members.
- **Arizona Attorney General's office** Attorney General Terry Goddard will provide you with information to help you protect your identity, and will provide advice about what to do if you are a victim of identity theft. Identity theft is a serious crime. According to the Federal Trade Commission, Arizona ranked first in ID theft complaints in 2004 among all states, and metro Phoenix ranked number one among all metropolitan areas in the country. The Attorney General's Office is working hard to reduce ID theft in Arizona.

Mark your calendars...

Date: Wednesday February 27, 2008
Time: 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. (*Continental Breakfast/Networking 8:30 – 9:00*)
Location: Arizona Central Union
2020 N Central Ave, Suite 100
Phoenix, AZ 85004
Phone: 602-271-0751

Please RSVP by February 20, 2008 Please respond by e-mail to Lisa.A.Novack@irs.gov or by calling Lisa Novack at 602-207-8417. Please provide your name, the name of your organization, your e-mail address and phone number, and how many will attend.

Guest parking is located directly behind the building and parking will be validated—don't forget to bring your ticket in.. The building is located off of Central and Holly just north of McDowell. To avoid construction, it's best to use 1st Ave. Head north on 1st Ave. and go all the way to end of street and turn right. Parking garage is on the right.

We invite you to have **at least one representative** from your organization attend this informational event. The round-table format will allow you the opportunity to interact with all of the government agencies and other small business organizations. This is your chance to ask your members or clients to identify any issues or concerns they might have that you can bring to the table. The issues should not be specific to a particular case, but we would appreciate help in identifying trends and general improvements that could be made to improve service to the public. (See "Identifying Federal Tax Issues" for suggested questions to address with your members to help identify issues that might exist with IRS.)

Please join us for this opportunity to serve your members and to help make this a successful event! We look forward to seeing you!

Identifying Federal Tax Issues

To assist us in working together to identify issues, we have compiled a list of questions you may want to address with your members/clients before the event. Discuss the concept of the Small Business Forum at your upcoming meetings or gatherings and use these questions to help spark conversation about potential issues.

If you could talk to the IRS and tell them about an issue that is running rampant in your industry and that the IRS could change, what would that issue be?

For Instance:

- Have you recently received any written notices from IRS or had contact regarding specific issues?
- Did you encounter any unique issues this filing season, when you prepared your return or gathered your records together?
- Are there any particularly burdensome issues that you encounter in your business regarding federal taxes?
- Are there any IRS issues or areas for which you would like more information or clarification?
- Did you utilize any of the electronic filing and paying options offered by the IRS?
 - Did you encounter any problems or burdens with these systems?
 - Are you familiar with the electronic filing and paying options or would you like more information?
- Have you used the IRS web site to find information, forms or publications for your small business?
 - Did you find what you needed?
 - Did you find it easily and quickly?
 - Are you familiar with the products and services the IRS has available for small businesses?